

REMARKS

Claims 1-16 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1, 2, 6 and 9 are amended.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to acknowledge the claim for priority, and receipt of the certified copies of the Priority Document submitted on September 4, 2003.

Applicant appreciates the Office Action's indication that claims 6, 7, 14 and 15 contain allowable subject matter.

The Office Action rejects claims 1-5, 8-13 and 16 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) over U.S. Patent No. 6,720,924 to Tomomatsu et al. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

The Office Action asserts that Tomomatsu discloses all elements recited in claims 1-5, 8-13 and 16. However, Tomomatsu does not disclose a planar element that is conductive and includes (i) an edge portion positioned away from the ground pattern, (ii) a feed point and (iii) a cut-out portion formed at the edge portion, as recited in claim 1; or a layer containing a conductor having a cut-out portion formed from an edge portion nearest to a first side surface of said antenna dielectric substrate toward a second side surface opposite to said first side surface, as recited in claim 11.

Tomomatsu discloses a chip antenna 12 having a meander antenna conductor 22 on the surface or inside of a dielectric chip 20, the chip antenna 12 being mounted on an isolation substrate 16 via a fixed pad 32. See Figs. 1a and 1b; col. 3, lines 32-50; and col. 4, lines 9-20.

The chip antenna 12 disclosed in Tomomatsu does not correspond to the planar element that is conductive recited in claim 1, or a layer containing a conductor recited in claim 11, despite the contrary assertion by the Office Action. The chip antenna 12 contains the dielectric chip 20. Therefore, the chip antenna 12 is not conductive.

Also, the fixed pad 32 disclosed in Tomomatsu is neither a cut-out portion, nor a part of a planar element that is conductive, nor a part of a layer containing a conductor. Thus, the chip antenna 12 and the fixed pad 32, as disclosed in Tomomatsu, are not a planar element that is conductive and a cut-out portion, as are recited in claim 1; or a layer containing a conductor and a cut-out portion, as recited in claim 11.

In addition, although the meander antenna conductor 22 disclosed in Tomomatsu may be conductive, it is in a shape of a wire line. Thus, the meander antenna conductor 22 of Tomomatsu is not a planar element or a layer. The meander antenna conductor 22 of Tomomatsu also does not have a cut-out portion, much less a cut-out portion formed at an edge portion positioned away from a ground pattern, or a cut-out portion formed from an edge portion nearest to a first side surface of said antenna dielectric substrate toward a second side surface opposite to said first side surface.

For any of the above reasons, Tomomatsu does not disclose each and every element recited in claims 1 and 11.

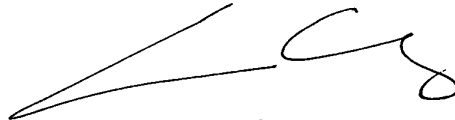
Claims 2-5, 8-10, 12, 13 and 16 are each patentable for at least the patentability of claims 1 and 11, from which they respectively depend, as well as for additional features they recite. For example, as discussed above, Tomomatsu discloses a meander antenna conductor 22. The meander antenna conductor 22 consists of a plurality of parallel wire sections. See Fig. 1A. Thus, when moving from one parallel wire section to another, the distance from the meander antenna conductor 22 to the ground pattern 18 or to the top edge of chip antenna 12 appears to vary discontinuously. See Fig. 1A. Thus, Tomomatsu does not disclose that at least one of the planar element and the ground pattern has a portion that causes to continuously vary a distance therebetween, as recited in claim 8; or that an edge portion of the conductor, which is nearest to the second side surface, has a portion that continuously varies a distance with the second side surface, as recited in claim 16.

Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1-5, 8-13 and 16 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-16 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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Attachment:
Petition for Extension of Time

Date: April 4, 2005

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